

## Resolution V

The U.I.P.V., recognizing the importance of determining and eliminating the reasons for irresponsible sexual conduct, draws the attention of health and education authorities to the necessity for the adoption of measures calculated to reduce the incidence of venereal infections :

- (a) Contact tracing and treatment show that there is a considerable proportion of defaulters among venereal disease patients and that biological and psychological factors are concerned with their conduct. Such cases ought to undergo psychiatric treatment and/or have the benefit of residence in institutions.

- (b) It was recommended that the teaching of biology, with its bearing upon human problems and the stability of the family, should find a place in education schedules. By this means, individual responsibility in sexual conduct would be developed. Enquiries ought to be made in each country regarding the best methods of carrying out this work and the results achieved.

With such enquiries and researches in view, the U.I.P.V. has initiated a Committee which will co-operate with UNESCO and other interested organizations and which will submit reports and proposals.

## BOOK REVIEW

*VENEREAL DISEASE : ITS PREVENTION  
AND CONQUEST*

By George Ryley Scott

(London : Torchstream Books. Second edition. 1947.  
Pp. 79. Price 3s. 6d.)

This small booklet presents to the layman a brief account of the problem underlying the successful prevention or cure of the venereal diseases. The nature of the acquisition and the course of the diseases are described in clear terms, and the necessity for accurate early diagnosis and speedy treatment are thoroughly stressed. The pros and cons of the case for compulsory notification, Regulation 33B, and power to deal with defaulting, are discussed.

Methods of prophylaxis, including details of chemical applications, are the subject of separate small chapters in which practical instruction is given. Reliance is placed upon the local use of calomel cream and potassium permanganate solution. Somewhat inconsistently the

latter is recommended in men for external washing only, but in women for internal douching. The terms "Condy's fluid" and "potassium permanganate" are used indiscriminately, this giving the reader the erroneous suggestion that the two substances are identical.

The author has no high opinion of the value of "free clinics," for he considers that they deal in a very minor way with the huge and far-reaching problem of venereal disease. He suggests that there is resentment at the treatment received at "public organizations run by officials"; and that there is too much prying into private lives and affairs. The result of all this, in the author's opinion, is a disinclination to visit a public department, and he considers that many of those who are infected do not visit the clinics.

A great deal of concise and useful information on venereal diseases is packed into the booklet, but one cannot avoid the impression that the prospective patient who reads it might be deterred from seeking advice at a clinic and that to some extent the book may thus undermine the author's plea for early diagnosis and treatment.

V.E.L.